6 Traits	ND	Pre-Exploration (beg. nursery) kindergarten)	Exploration (end of n. beg.	Experimenting (end of kinder. beg. grade 1)
Ideas		• represent ideas through marks on paper, simple drawings, etc.	• develop and represent ideas through drawing with minimal details	• develop and represent ideas through a detailed drawing (hair, clothing, etc.) and may include early writing to express ideas
Organization		•random spacing of drawings on paper e.g. small marks or drawings on big piece of paper	• space pictures on a page to tell a story	• place pictures and writing, thoughtfully on the page, left - to - right writing on page
Voice		• create drawings with minimal use of color (e.g. 1 or 2 colors) and lines	• create drawings with use of different colors, shapes, lines, facial features displaying feelings (e.g. happy face)	• demonstrate a personal style of expressive drawings (face displays, range of feelings) and expressive writing (e.g. I love)
Sentence Fluency		• write using random marks to represent a sentence	• write a string of random letters to represent a sentence	• write letter-sound strings that represent a sentence e.g. lpwmydg-I play with my dog
Word Choice		• when prompted, may use scribbles, circles or lines, to represent individual words	• label picture with words such as names of people e.g. Mom or name of siblings; copy words from around room	• write words, (more than 1 letter), connecting sounds with consonant letters/add simple, familiar words (e.g. to, from) to pictures
Conventions		• write own name by tracing it or copying it; working on forming letters; not aware of letter reversals	• write own name independently-mixture of capitals and lowercase letters; form letters with some reversals evident; left to right orientation on page; experimenting with spelling but no consistent letter sound connection	• write using inventive spelling with adult scaffolding or on own, connect letters to consonant sounds; spell some high frequency, sight words such as I, we, go; child can read own writing and writing can be read by adults without the child's help